

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-14. (canceled)

15. (currently amended) A method of collecting and storing a non-blood ~~genetic material~~ sample ~~for genetic analysis~~, said sample is collected from a human or non-human animal subject ~~and said method comprises by an individual wherein the individual is optionally the subject comprising~~ the steps of:

(a) labeling a storage card ~~comprising wherein the storage card comprises~~ one or more specimen circles containing a ~~the~~ dry solid support matrix;

(b) swabbing the inside of the mouth of ~~said the~~ subject with a sponge to obtain a non-blood ~~genetic material~~ sample comprising mouth cells, ~~saliva, viruses, infectious organisms or a combination thereof~~ wherein ~~said the~~ sample sorbs onto ~~said the~~ sponge;

(c) blotting ~~said the~~ sponge containing ~~said the~~ sample sorbed thereon onto a specimen circle ~~of said comprising the labeled dry solid support matrix on the storage card, thereby forming an affixed sample on said dry solid~~

~~support matrix wherein the sample is affixed to the dry solid support matrix;~~

(d) air-drying ~~said the~~ affixed sample ~~on said onto~~ the ~~labeled~~ dry solid support matrix wherein the dry solid support matrix comprises a compound or composition that reduces the risk of contamination and degradation of the affixed ~~sample non-blood genetic material;~~

(e) labeling a resealable storage pouch ~~containing a desiccant;~~

(f) placing the storage card containing ~~said affixed~~ the sample ~~affixed to the dry solid matrix~~ into the resealable storage pouch ~~wherein the storage pouch contains a desiccant;~~

(g) ~~sealing closing~~ ~~said the~~ resealable storage pouch ~~with a tamper-resistant security tape, thereby forming a sealed storage pouch;~~

~~(h) placing a tamper-resistant security tape over the closed portion of the resealable storage pouch thereby sealing it;~~

~~(i h)~~ labeling a ~~water-resistant, puncture-resistant permanent storage record folder, thereby forming a labeled storage folder;~~

(j i) placing ~~said the~~ sealed storage pouch into ~~said~~
~~the~~ labeled ~~permanent~~ storage ~~record~~ folder; and

(~~k j~~) storing ~~said the~~ labeled ~~permanent~~ storage
record folder ~~in a location designated by the individual or the~~
~~subject wherein said affixed the sample affixed to the dry solid~~
~~support matrix~~ is obtainable at any time by ~~an the individual or~~
~~the subject~~ for subsequent genetic analysis.

16. (currently amended) The method of claim 15,
further comprising the step of:

repeating steps (a) ~~to and~~ (~~b c~~) until all of the at
least one specimen circles ~~on said storage card comprising the~~
~~dry solid support matrix~~ contain a the non-blood ~~sample~~ genetic
material affixed thereto.

17-20. (canceled)